

FOOD PURCHASE REPORT

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

DATE: June 2, 2008

USDA WHOLE EGGS PURCHASE PROGRAM ANNOUNCED (PY-334):

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) today announced plans to purchase whole eggs for school lunch and other domestic food nutrition assistance programs. Offers will be invited from approved suppliers for whole eggs in one or more of the following forms:

Thirty-pound containers (082030) – Frozen whole eggs (without color stabilizer) packed in a full opening type plastic container with snap-on type lid, 30 pounds (13.61 kg) net in each plastic container. A purchase unit will consist of 1,320 shipping containers totaling 39,600 pounds (17,962 kg).

Five-pound cartons (082065) – Frozen homogenized whole eggs with a color stabilizer packaged 5 pounds (2.27 kg) net weight in a pitcher-pour type, polyethylene-coated paperboard carton, and packed six 5-pound (2.27 kg) cartons per fiberboard shipping container with 30 pounds (13.61 kg) net weight. A purchase unit will consist of 1,334 shipping containers totaling 40,020 pounds (18,153 kg).

Bulk liquid whole eggs (083090) – Bulk liquid whole eggs (without color stabilizer) for further processing, packed and shipped in insulated tankers, 48,000 pounds (21,772 kg) net weight in each tanker. A purchase unit will total 48,000 pounds (21,772 kg).

Invitation No. 1, inviting offers due by 12 noon, Central Time, Monday, June 16, is being issued in the near future. Acceptances will be announced by midnight, Friday, June 20, for delivery from Aug. 1 to Aug. 15. Subsequent invitations will be issued inviting offers due the first and third Monday of each month.

All offers must be submitted electronically through the Domestic Electronic Bid Entry System (DEBES) website at <https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe?>. Offers submitted by any means other than DEBES will be considered nonresponsive.

There are some important changes to this year's program. Under the food defense requirements, all non-conformances listed in the audit report must be addressed in writing within 14 days to the Contracting Officer. Plans must also have been audited since February 7, 2008. In addition, Program Announcements have been replaced with the Master Solicitation for Commodity

Purchases and the Qualification Requirements for Prospective Contractors Selling Commodities to USDA. Also, qualified bidders must provide annual financial updates to Dun & Bradstreet as detailed in the Qualification Requirements.

All certifications in the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) and Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA) must be completed prior to submitting a bid.

Although most other provisions of the program are similar to the program operated last year, offerors are urged to carefully read all applicable terms and conditions of the Master Solicitation for Commodity Purchases dated May 2008; Qualification Requirements for Prospective Contractors dated May 2008; the Commodity Specification for Whole Eggs dated June 2008, and Invitation No. 1.

Inquiries may be made by telephoning (202) 720-7693 or addressing the Contracting Officer; USDA/AMS/Poultry Programs, Commodity Procurement Branch STOP 0260; 1400 Independence Ave., SW; Washington, DC 20250. An electronic version of this Food Purchase Report can be obtained through the world wide web via the Commodity Procurement Home Page at: www.ams.usda.gov/cp.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

- - - - -